

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are presently pending before amendments herein. Claims 7-31, 35-37, and 39 are cancelled. No new claims are added. Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38 remain pending after amendments herein.

Election/Restriction

The claims are subjected to a restriction/election requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 as containing two patentably distinct groups of the claimed invention:

- I. Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38, are drawn to a method facilitating similarity recognition of a digital signal that results in a recognition value that indicates the perceptual aspects of the signal, classified in class 382, subclass 181; and
- II. Claims 7-31, 35-37, and 39, are drawn to methods for hashing a digital signal, classified in class 382, subclass 232.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I in the event that the restriction/election requirement as set forth above is maintained. **Claims 1-6, 32-34, and 38 read on Group I.**

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RESPONSE TO Restriction Requirement DATED
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Conclusion

All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Office is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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